



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Sustainable Fisheries Division
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Seattle, WA 98115-0070

DATE: August 13, 2008
TO: DISTRIBUTION
FROM: F/NWR2 -Becky Renko
SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY Report 9 -- 2008 Pacific Whiting Fishery

This report consolidates preliminary state, federal, and tribal data for the 2008 Pacific whiting fishery. Due to concerns about the incidental catch of overfished species, bycatch limits are in place in the non-tribal sectors of the fishery for canary (4.7 mt), darkblotched (40 mt) and widow rockfish (275 mt). If any of the bycatch limits is reached, the primary whiting seasons for the non-tribal fisheries will end regardless of the amount of whiting allocation remaining.

	Allocation		Whiting Catch* (mt)	Overfished Species and Chinook salmon catch	Thru [date]	Status	Percent of allocation taken
	Percentages	Metric Tons					
California (south of 42° N. lat.)	(5% of the shore – based allocation)	4,880	4,815			started 4/1, closed noon 5/21	98.7%
Coastwide			17,899			started 6/15	
WOC shore-based	42% commercial OY	97,669	22,714	Canary – 0.98 mt Widow – 70.79 mt Darkblotched – 0.90 mt Chinook # 817	8/11		23.3%
Mothership (n. of 42 N. lat.)	24% commercial OY	55,811	43,708	Canary – 0.74 mt Widow – 60.75 mt Darkblotched – 3.92 mt Chinook # 202	8/11	started 5/15	78.3%
Catcher/processor (n. of 42 N. lat.)	34% commercial OY	79,065	46,601	Canary – 2.40 mt Widow – 39.30 mt Darkblotched – 2.36 mt Chinook # 87	8/11	started 5/15	58.9%
Total nontribal	commercial OY	232,545	113,023	Canary – 4.12 mt Widow – 170.84 mt Darkblotched – 7.18 mt Chinook # 1,106	--	--	48.6%
Tribal (Makah)		35,000	71	Canary – 0.02 mt Widow – 0.02 mt Darkblotched – 0.00 mt Chinook # 5	5/17		0.2%
Total directed fishing		267,545	113,094	Canary – 4.14 mt Widow – 170.86 mt Darkblotched – 7.18 mt Chinook # 1,111	--		42.2%
Total	OY=optimum yield	269,545	--	--	--	--	--

* Catch includes: discards from at-sea processors; weigh-backs from shore-based vessels; and catch landed under trip limits prior to the season. The values for at-sea processing sectors are based on NMFS observer data. Data for shore-based vessels were derived from electronic fish ticket submissions. Data for the at-sea processing portion of the Makah fishery are based on preliminary NMFS observer data and shore-based catch provided by tribal samplers. All weights are in metric ton (2,204.6 pounds).